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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540,185	03/20/2006	Laszlo Hars	US020605	6380
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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			AVERY, JEREMIAH L	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/540,185	HARS, LASZLO
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jeremiah Avery	2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 June 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-13 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 12 recites the limitation "The electronic content medium" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 7,167,560 to Yu, hereinafter Yu.

2. Regarding claim 1, Yu teaches a method of distributing various quality versions of an electronic content, said method comprising:

defining each quality version of the electronic content (Figure 7, column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level

with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)", column 7, lines 31-57 and column 10, lines 38-49);

defining at least one distortion algorithm executable to generate a lower quality version of the electronic content by a distortion of the highest quality version of the electronic content (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)" and lines 27-31, column 4, lines 27-47, "where the encryption is more significant, there comes a degree of disruption at which the media is rendered substantially imperceptible or of such low quality as to be substantially unsuitable to the recipient", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64);

assigning at least one content key to at least one quality version of the electronic content (column 4, lines 27-47, column 7, lines 21-45 and column 10, lines 50-64).

3. Regarding claim 2, Yu teaches storing the highest quality version of the electronic content on an electronic content medium (column 4, lines 48-60).

4. Regarding claim 3, Yu teaches storing at least one distortion algorithm on the electronic content medium (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)" and lines 27-31, column 4, lines 27-47, "where the encryption is more significant, there comes a degree of disruption at which

the media is rendered substantially imperceptible or of such low quality as to be substantially unsuitable to the recipient", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64).

5. Regarding claim 4, Yu teaches storing the at least one distortion algorithm on an electronic content player (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)" and lines 27-31, column 4, lines 27-47, "where the encryption is more significant, there comes a degree of disruption at which the media is rendered substantially imperceptible or of such low quality as to be substantially unsuitable to the recipient", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64).

6. Regarding claim 5, Yu teaches storing the at least content key on the electronic content medium (column 4, lines 27-47, column 7, lines 21-45 and column 10, lines 50-64).

7. Regarding claim 6, Yu teaches storing the at least content key on an electronic content player (column 4, lines 27-47, column 7, lines 21-45 and column 10, lines 50-64).

8. Regarding claim 7, Yu teaches an electronic content medium, comprising: a highest quality version of an electronic content (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club

members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64); at least one distortion algorithm executable to generate a lower quality version of the electronic content by a distortion of said highest quality version of the electronic content (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)" and lines 27-31, column 4, lines 27-47, "where the encryption is more significant, there comes a degree of disruption at which the media is rendered substantially imperceptible or of such low quality as to be substantially unsuitable to the recipient", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64).

9. Regarding claim 8, Yu discloses the electronic content medium, further comprising:

at least one content key assigned to one of the quality versions of the electronic content (column 4, lines 27-47, column 7, lines 21-45 and column 10, lines 50-64).

10. Regarding claim 9, Yu discloses an electronic content player, comprising: a decryption unit operable to decrypt and decode a highest quality version of an electronic content (column 7, lines 1-8 and 32-57 and column 10, lines 51-64); and a distortion unit operable to generate a lower quality version of the electronic content by a distortion of the decrypted and decoded highest quality version of the electronic content (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general

population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)" and lines 27-31, column 4, lines 27-47, "where the encryption is more significant, there comes a degree of disruption at which the media is rendered substantially imperceptible or of such low quality as to be substantially unsuitable to the recipient", column 7, lines 21-57 and column 10, lines 38-64).

11. Regarding claim 10, Yu discloses a controller operable to direct said decryption unit to decrypt and decode the highest quality version of an electronic content in accordance with a content key associated with the electronic content (column 7, lines 1-8 and 32-57 and column 10, lines 51-64).

12. Regarding claim 11, Yu discloses a controller operable to direct said decryption unit to decrypt and decode the highest quality version of an electronic content in accordance with a content key assigned to one of a lower quality version of the electronic content (column 7, lines 1-8 and 32-57 and column 10, lines 51-64).

13. Regarding claim 12, Yu discloses a controller operable to direct said decryption unit to decrypt and decode the highest quality version of an electronic content in accordance with a content key associated with the electronic content subsequent to a reception of a secret key assigned to the electronic content player (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)", column 7, lines 1-8 and 32-57 and column 10, lines 51-64).

14. Regarding claim 13, Yu discloses a controller operable to direct said decryption unit to decrypt and decode the highest quality version of an electronic content in accordance with a content key assigned to one of a lower quality version of the electronic content subsequent to a reception of a secret key assigned to the electronic content player (column 3, lines 6-21, "different quality levels of preview available to different types of users (e.g., lower level with least clear data preview for general population, higher level preview with clearer data for club members, and full playback for authorized or paid customers)", column 7, lines 1-8 and 32-57 and column 10, lines 51-64).

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

16. The following United States Patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to secure content management, such as:

United States Patent No. 6,601,140 to Okaue et al., which is cited to show a memory unit, data processing unit, and data processing method using memory unit type.

United States Patent No. 7,228,428 to Cousins et al., which is cited to show a method and apparatus for embedding encrypted images of signatures and other data on checks.

United States Patent No. 7,127,431 to Kambayashi et al., which is cited to show an information recording device and information reproducing device.

United States Patent No. 6,574,609 to Downs et al., which is cited to show a secure electronic content management system.

United States Patent No. 7,299,498 to Lee et al., which is cited to show a system and method of sharing digital literary works while protecting against illegal reproduction through communication network.

United States Patent No. 6,148,333 to Guedalia et al. which is cited to show a method and system for server access control and tracking.

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeremiah Avery whose telephone number is (571) 272-8627. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8:30am-5pm.

18. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

19. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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